

chairing the 1996 local United Way campaign with men's basketball coach Kevin O'Neill.

So maybe, just maybe, those flashes of sideline temper aren't as bad as they seem. Or maybe the end justifies the means. Summitt makes no excuses.

"I'm not really concerned about what people say about the way I coach or my style," Summitt says. "Because unless you are really on the inside, I don't think you can totally understand and appreciate communication."

"My volume can be on 10, but my message can be very positive. My volume may be a two and it can be one of constructive criticism. I can't spend my career trying to please everybody. When I concern myself with people, it's the people right here."

Through the years, 13 players have transferred out. "I'm sure my personality, my expectations for us, had something to do with it," she says.

Those around her say Summitt today yells more selectively, having adapted to changes in players and differences in teams' chemistries. She's still tough.

"Now she still gets in their faces and she expects a lot out of them, but I think she has really made an effort to compliment them when they do well, tell them how proud she is of them," DeMoss says. "There's never been a question that she cares about her players."

Says former Lady Vol center and current University of Richmond assistant coach Sheila Frost: "Pat will drive you to the brink, but she won't break you. I was just a little farm girl when I got to Tennessee. She took me under her wing and she kicked me in the rear too."

The idea of playing for a demanding basketball icon with a temper can be intimidating not just to 18-year-olds. DeMoss works to "humanize" Summitt to recruits and parents. "I tell them up front, 'Yes, she's tough, she's demanding. . . . She expects nothing but your best. And if you come here, basketball needs to be important to you because it's very important to Pat.'"

Call it maturity. Call it security. Don't call it mellow.

"Pat hates it when people use that word," DeMoss says.

Summitt agrees she's more apt to ask for input from DeMoss, Warwick and assistant Al Brown and from her players. "I'm more flexible today than I was at 27, more tolerant. Starting out I guess I was kind of a dictator type. I thought I had all the answers."

There's no question who's in charge, but Summitt is more comfortable letting players make some decisions. "I've heard her ask the players during a time-out, 'You want to play zone or man-to-man?'" DeMoss says. "I think she knows now you can laugh and have fun and still win. Used to, she didn't think the two ever could go together."

She gets help laughing from practical jokers DeMoss and Warwick. Once, Summitt was ragging the players about her playing days. The coach swore she always rebounded and never tossed fancy passes. DeMoss and Warwick showed the team a grainy, black-and-white video of Summitt's playing days.

"She threw hook passes; she didn't rebound. The whole team had to wait for her to get down the court," Warwick laughs. "But she took it very well."

Summitt can slip in a joke herself. Tennessee was to play Louisiana Tech in April in the 1988 Final Four semifinal. Summitt

called Warwick and DeMoss with the worst of news—UT star Bridgette Gordon had severe food poisoning.

"She really had us going. And then she said, 'April Fool.' Ninety percent of the time she is so serious, she can really get you," DeMoss says.

Mellow or mature, Summitt remains one very poor loser.

"She's more like her daddy. I want them to win, but he really is disappointed if they don't," Hazel Head says. "I try to tell her, 'When you go out there, you know one's going to lose, and one can't do it all. You can't always be on top.'"

Says R.B. Summitt, "If we should have lost, Pat's not a good loser and it's not any fun. But if we should not have lost, if the team didn't give effort, if we sort of gave the game away with mistakes, then it's worse."

"I get really sick inside," Summitt says, putting one hand to her chest. "I just have a terrible feeling. I cannot get it off my mind. I replay every play. I always feel there's something I could have said or done to make the difference."

She is hard on herself and on her players. Game mistakes are replayed in hard practices. "I'm sure the players get sick of hearing it. But that's OK. Then they'll remember how they felt when they lost," she says.

If you really want to feel the Summitt wrath, be lazy or dishonest.

Team policy is sacred. Going to class and being on time are not mere suggestions. You don't go to class, you don't step on the court. All players who remained at Tennessee four years have graduated, a fact that coaches are as proud of as those national championships.

Players who break team rules get suspended. Most recently, Lady Vols center Tiffani Johnson was not allowed to make last Monday's team trip to the White House because of an undisclosed rules violation.

Word is that Summitt knows everything. "She just looks at you and says, 'I know what you've been doing and you just confess,'" Warwick says.

Summitt suspended point guard Tiffany Woosley for three games her senior year after Woosley made comments reportedly criticizing some teammates. "It doesn't matter who you are, if you do one thing wrong, you get punished. It's Pat's way or no way," says Woosley, now coach at Fayetteville's Lincoln County High School. "That's the way it should be. She's tough. But I learned from it, the good and the bad."

Says Sexton: "There's a price to be paid to be a part of that program. You have got to be above reproach. It's a responsibility, a commitment on and off the floor."

Recruits ask DeMoss "Can I play for Pat? Can I handle Pat?" I tell them, "Two things will keep you out of the doghouse. Work hard and be honest," DeMoss says.

Says Summitt, "I think I have very little patience with people that are not motivated to work hard. It's hard for me to understand."

#### THE DEATH OF DR. HECTOR GARCIA

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 26, 1996

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to advise my colleagues of the passing of Dr. Hec-

tor Garcia of Corpus Christi, who was my personal hero and one of the most important Americans of our time.

Dr. Garcia was a different breed of patriot and citizen. Long before the issue of civil rights was on anyone else's agenda, Dr. Hector Garcia recognized the need for equal rights for the citizens of the United States, particularly in our little corner of the world in south Texas. Rather than make the larger elements of society uncomfortable with a direct public assault on the status quo, Dr. Garcia began making quiet inroads into the system.

Dr. Garcia encouraged all of us to become involved. He articulated clearly, then, why it was necessary for Hispanics to show an interest in the workings of our city, our community, and our country. He underscored the basic workings of democracy, preaching his message about the strength of numbers, the necessity of registering to vote, and the power of voting.

Today, Dr. Garcia's message is the political gospel to which we all adhere. While others fought the system, often unsuccessfully, Dr. Garcia worked within the system to open it up for everyone to participate. He amazed us all with his wisdom, foresight, and longevity.

Dr. Garcia began fighting for the cause of civil rights in 1948—long before others joined that cause. He fought for basic, fundamental civil, human, and individual rights. The seeds he planted all those years ago have grown into ideas whose roots are firmly planted in south Texas. Those seeds have produced today's leaders, and laid the foundation for tomorrow's leaders.

As a veteran, I am particularly grateful to Dr. Garcia for his very special service—both during conflict with the enemy, and within the bureaucracy. The American GI forum, which he founded, was originally intended to guide WWI and WWII veterans through the maze of bureaucracy to obtain their educational and medical benefits, and it grew into the highly acclaimed Hispanic civil rights organization.

The seeds of Dr. Garcia's inspiration and leadership have sprouted, and they will continue to grow and succeed—just as he planned. Dr. Garcia was a tremendously decent man, and his legacy to us is to treat each other decently as human beings. He embodied the Golden Rule—"Do unto others as you would have them do unto you." There are a host of people in south Texas who received free medical care from him because they simply couldn't afford to pay him.

I will miss him, and I will miss his decency—I believe all Americans will. I believe the best way for us to remember him is to follow his example.